

Georgia Vision Resource Guide

Compiled by the Georgia Vision Collaborative

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Georgia Vision Collaborative

Reactivated in 2012, the Georgia Vision Collaborative is a statewide coalition of public and private agencies addressing aging eye disease in Georgia. By strengthening relationships among vision agencies across the state, the Collaborative strives to identify and reduce gaps in vision services, educate the public and those at risk about vision health issues, and improve access to vision programs in Georgia. To learn more, visit our website at www.georgiavisioncollaborative.org or call (404) 537-4985.

The Georgia Vision Collaborative is pleased to present the **Georgia Vision Resource Guide**, a directory of adult vision and aging eye health services available across the state. You can use this guide to locate services such as low cost eye exams, reduced cost eyeglasses, and vision rehabilitation and low vision resources. Additional resources include aging services, independent living, and programs specifically designed to enhance the quality of life for aging adults.

This document was prepared in the summer of 2013 based on information from participating organizations. Information is subject to change. If revisions or additions are needed, please contact the Georgia Vision Collaborative at georgiavisioncollaborative@pbga.org or (404) 537-4985. Regular updates will be made and revision dates noted on page 1.

**The Georgia Vision Collaborative is supported by the Georgia Department of Public Health's
"Georgia Drive for Sight Program"**

The vision of the Georgia Drive for Sight Program (GDFS) is to be a source of preventive vision health services for all citizens in Georgia. GDFS provides support for vision services throughout Georgia based on the availability of funds generated from voluntary contributions. Georgia drivers are able to donate one dollar or more at the time of their initial or renewal application for drivers' licenses at any Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS) Customer Service Center location.

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Vision and Aging Resources

Professional Eye Care

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------|--|---|
| American Academy of Ophthalmology | (415) 561-8500 | (415) 561-8533 | 655 Beach Street San Francisco, CA 94109 | customer_service@aao.org www.aao.org |
| The American Academy of Ophthalmology is the largest national membership association of Eye M.D.s. Eye M.D.s are ophthalmologists, medical, and osteopathic doctors who provide comprehensive eye care, including medical, surgical, and optical care. More than 90 percent of practicing U.S. Eye M.D.s are Academy members, and the Academy has more than 7,000 international members. Visit the Academy's website to find an Eye M.D. in your area. | | | | |
| Georgia Optometric Association | (770) 961-9866 (800) 949-0060 | (770) 961-9965 | 1000 Corporate Center Drive Suite 240 Morrow, GA 30260 | goaeyes@aol.com www.goaeyes.com |
| The Georgia Optometric Association (GOA) is a statewide professional organization representing over 700 optometrists located in communities throughout Georgia. The GOA has also published a Low Vision Directory (.pdf) and a listing of Low Vision Doctors in Georgia (.pdf). The Low Vision Directory provides individuals with low vision information necessary to make informed decisions regarding their rehabilitation plan. Sections include service providers; driving regulations; agencies and organizations; and a listing of low vision optometrists by area in the state. Visit the GOA website to find an optometrist in your area or to access the GOA Low Vision Directory or listing of low vision doctors. | | | | |
| Georgia Society of Ophthalmology | (404) 299-6588 | (404) 299-7029 | 487 Winn Way Suite 100 Decatur, GA 30030 | admin@ga-eyemds.org www.ga-eyemeds.org |
| The Georgia Society of Ophthalmology (GSO) is the only statewide organization representing Georgia ophthalmologists and their patients. The GSO's activities include legislative advocacy, continuing medical education for ophthalmologists, and public education about important eye health care concerns. Members of the Georgia Society of Ophthalmology are board-certified ophthalmologists (Eye M.D.s) in various practice settings throughout Georgia. Our member physicians are wholly dedicated to lifelong learning and professional integrity in order to provide the best possible patient care. Visit the GSO website to find an ophthalmologist in your area. | | | | |

Reduced Cost/No Cost Vision Screenings

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| Georgia Association for Primary Health Care | (404) 659-2861 (877) 774-2742 | (404) 659-2801 | 315 West Ponce de Leon Ave. Suite 1000 Decatur, GA 30030 | javent@gaphc.org www.gaphc.org |
| The Georgia Association for Primary Health Care, Inc. (GAPHC) is a membership organization for all Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) in the state of Georgia. Many of the GAPHC's member health centers provide adult vision screenings. Visit the GAPHC website to find an FQHC in your area. | | | | |
| Georgia Charitable Care Network | (404) 494-7823 | | One West Court Square Suite 750 Decatur, GA 30030 | euler.gcsu.edu/home/scouillou/gccn/wordpress |
| The Georgia Charitable Care Network (GCCN) (formerly the Georgia Free Clinic Network) is a statewide association of charitable and free medical and dental clinics as well as individual providers. Many of the GCCN's member clinics provide adult vision screenings. Visit the GCCN website to find a free or low fee clinic in your area. | | | | |
| Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation, Inc. | (404) 325-3630 | (404) 636-5549 | 5582 Peachtree Road Atlanta, GA 30341 | galions@lionslighthouse.org www.lionslighthouse.org |
| The Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation has served as a beacon of hope to many for over 60 years. The Lighthouse provides eyeglasses, exams, surgeries, and hearing aids to help people to see and hear again. Our partner medical providers greatly discount their services for the Lighthouse, at a combined value of \$5 for every \$1 we spend. So for every dollar donated to the Lighthouse, a Georgian receives \$5 in medical services. | | | | |
| HealPros | (877) 942-2250 | (404) 478-9568 | 99 Madison Ave. Suite 511 New York, NY 10016 | www.healpros.com |
| HealPros is committed to ensuring that all patients with diabetes have access to critical retinal imaging services in an effort to eradicate preventable blindness. By addressing the current barriers to full program adoption and cooperating with caretakers across the U.S. to educate and screen patients, HealPros will fulfill its mission of changing the vision of diabetes. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|--|-----------------------|---|---|
| Prevent Blindness Georgia | (404) 266-2020 (800) 477-4448 | (404) 266-0860 | 739 W. Peachtree Street NW Suite 200 Atlanta, GA 30308 | gainfo@pbga.org www.pbga.org |
| <p>With a focus on promoting a continuum of vision care, Prevent Blindness Georgia provides direct vision services to more than 40,000 people each year. Retinal screenings are provided for adults at risk for glaucoma and other aging eye diseases in many geographic areas. Prevent Blindness Georgia is an affiliate of Prevent Blindness America, the nation's leading nonprofit eye health and safety organization for more than 100 years.</p> | | | | |

Reduced Cost/No Cost Eye Exams

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|----------------|----------------|--|---|
| EyeCare America | (706) 323-3652 | (706) 653-9204 | 6490 Veterans Parkway Columbus, GA 31909 | cmauldin@americaneyecare.biz www.americaneyecare.biz |
| EyeCare America is a national public service program of the Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. Individuals can go to www.eyecareamerica.org and take an online questionnaire to see if they qualify for a referral to one of EyeCare America's 7,000 volunteer ophthalmologists nationwide or request free eye health educational materials. | | | | |
| Georgia Association for Primary Health Care | (404) 659-2861 | (404) 659-2801 | 315 West Ponce de Leon Ave. Suite 1000 Decatur, GA 30030 | javent@gaphc.org www.gaphc.org |
| The Georgia Association for Primary Health Care, Inc. (GAPHC) is a membership organization for all Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) in the state of Georgia. Many of the GAPHC's member health centers provide adult vision exams. Visit the GAPHC website to find a FQHC in your area. | | | | |
| Georgia Charitable Care Network | (404) 494-7823 | | One West Court Square Suite 750 Decatur, GA 30030 | www.euler.gcsu.edu/home/scouillou/gccn/wordpress |
| The Georgia Charitable Care Network (GCCN) (formerly the Georgia Free Clinic Network) is a statewide association of charitable and free medical and dental clinics as well as individual providers. Many of the GCCN's member clinics provide adult vision exams. Visit the GCCN website to find a free or low fee clinic in your area. | | | | |
| Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation, Inc. | (404) 325-3630 | (404) 636-5549 | 5582 Peachtree Road Atlanta, GA 30341 | galions@lionslighthouse.org www.lionslighthouse.org |
| The Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation has served as a beacon of hope to many for over 60 years. The Lighthouse provides eyeglasses, exams, surgeries, and hearing aids that allow people to see and hear again. The Lions Lighthouse has a mobile clinic that visits 23 sites throughout Georgia. At each clinic, qualifying individuals can receive eye exams and glasses. The clinics allow the Lighthouse and its partners to diagnose and treat serious eye conditions before the client experiences permanent vision loss. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|--|-----------------------|--|--|
| Grady Eye Clinic | (404) 616-4671 | (404) 616-9063 | 80 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive SE Atlanta, GA 30303 | www.gradyhealth.org/clinic/47 |
| Grady Eye Clinic is part of Atlanta's Grady Health System. The Grady eye clinic provides laboratory services, translation services, social services, financial counseling, optometry, non-emergency clinics, and specialty clinics. | | | | |
| Prevent Blindness Georgia | (404) 266-2020 (800) 477-4448 | (404) 266-0860 | 739 West Peachtree Street NW Suite 200 Atlanta, GA 30308-1137 | gainfo@pbga.org www.pbga.org |
| With a focus on promoting a continuum of vision care, Prevent Blindness Georgia provides direct vision services to more than 40,000 people each year. Free eye exams and free or low-cost glasses are available across the state for adults who qualify financially. Prevent Blindness Georgia is an affiliate of Prevent Blindness America, the nation's leading nonprofit eye health and safety organization for more than 100 years. For an adult eye exam, call (404) 537-4988. | | | | |
| Vision USA | (800) 766-4466 | (314) 991-4101 | 243 N. Lindbergh Blvd. Floor 1 St. Louis, MO 63141 | visionusa@aoa.org www.aoa.org/visionusa |
| Vision USA was established in 1991 to provide basic eye examinations to Americans in need, and is currently available in 39 states and the District of Columbia. American Optometric Association (AOA) member optometrists donate their services at no cost. Vision USA provides free eye exams to eligible, low-income individuals. Services are donated by volunteer optometrists who are members of the American Optometric Association. | | | | |

Reduced Cost/No Cost Eyeglasses

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------|---|--|
| Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation, Inc. | (404) 325-3630 | (404) 636-5549 | 5582 Peachtree Road Atlanta, GA 30341 | galions@lionslighthouse.org www.lionslighthouse.org |
| The Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation has served as a beacon of hope to many for over 60 years. The Lighthouse provides eyeglasses, exams, surgeries, and hearing aids to help people to see and hear again. The Lighthouse has a mobile clinic that visits 23 sites throughout Georgia. At each clinic, qualifying individuals can receive eye exams and glasses. The clinics allow the Lighthouse and its partners to diagnose and treat serious eye conditions before the client experiences permanent vision loss. | | | | |
| New Eyes for the Needy | (973) 376-4903 | (973) 376-3807 | 549 Millburn Ave. PO Box 332 Short Hills, NJ 07078 | sdyckman@new-eyes.org www.new-eyes.org |
| New Eyes for the Needy's vision is to empower children and adults in the United States and overseas with the improved vision they need to pursue a better quality of life for themselves, their families, and their communities. New Eyes purchases new prescription glasses through a voucher program for children and adults who cannot afford glasses on their own. | | | | |
| Prevent Blindness Georgia | (404) 266-2020 (800) 477-4448 | (404) 266-0860 | 739 West Peachtree Street NW Suite 200 Atlanta, GA 30308-1137 | gainfo@pbga.org www.pbga.org |
| With a focus on promoting a continuum of vision care, Prevent Blindness Georgia provides direct vision services to more than 40,000 people each year. Free eye exams and free or low-cost glasses are available across the state for adults who qualify financially. Prevent Blindness Georgia is an affiliate of Prevent Blindness America, the nation's leading nonprofit eye health and safety organization for more than 100 years. For an adult eye exam and glasses, call (404) 537-4988. | | | | |

Reduced Cost/No Cost Eye Surgery

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|--|
| Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation, Inc. | (404) 325-3630 | (404) 636-5549 | 5582 Peachtree Road Atlanta, GA 30341 | galions@lionslighthouse.org www.lionslighthouse.org |
| The Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation has served as a beacon of hope to many for over 60 years. The Lighthouse provides eyeglasses, exams, surgeries, and hearing aids to help people to see and hear again. The Lighthouse assists in corneal transplants, cataract and retinal surgeries, prosthetic eyes, and medically necessary contact lenses. When three local Lions Clubs founded the Lighthouse in 1949, we performed one sight-saving surgery. We now perform more than 300 surgeries per year. | | | | |
| Grady Eye Clinic | (404) 616-4671 | (404) 616-9063 | 80 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive SE Atlanta, GA 30303 | www.gradyhealth.org/clinic/47 |
| Grady Eye Clinic is part of Atlanta's Grady Health System. The Grady eye clinic provides laboratory services, translation services, social services, financial counseling, optometry, non-emergency clinics, and specialty clinics. | | | | |

Prescription Drug Assistance

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|----------------|----------------|--|--|
| BenefitsCheckUp | (202) 479-1200 | | 1901 L Street NW 4th Floor Washington D.C. 20036 | www.benefitscheckup.org |
| BenefitsCheckUp is a free service of the National Council on Aging (NCOA), a nonprofit service and advocacy organization in Washington, DC. Many adults over 55 need help paying for prescription drugs, health care, utilities, and other basic needs. There are over 2,000 federal, state, and private benefits programs available to help. | | | | |
| NeedyMeds | (800) 503-6897 | (206) 260-8850 | P.O. Box 219 Gloucester, MA 01931 | www.needymeds.org |
| NeedyMeds' mission is to be the best source of accurate, comprehensive, and up-to-date information on programs that help people facing problems paying for medications and health care; to assist those in need to apply to programs; and to provide health-related education using innovative methods. The NeedyMeds website provides links to coupons and applications for all the pharmaceutical company assistance programs. Available in Spanish. | | | | |
| Partnership for Prescription Assistance | (888) 477-2669 | | | www.pparx.org |
| The Partnership for Prescription Assistance helps qualifying patients without prescription drug coverage get the medicines they need for free or nearly free. Our mission is to increase awareness of patient assistance programs and boost enrollment of those who are eligible. We offer a single point of access to more than 475 public and private programs, including nearly 200 offered by biopharmaceutical companies. We have already helped millions of Americans get free or reduced-cost prescription medicines. Available in Spanish. | | | | |
| Rx Outreach | (800) 769-3880 | | PO Box 66536 St. Louis, MO 63166 | questions@rxoutreach.org www.rxoutreach.org |
| Rx Outreach is a non-profit charitable organization that provides affordable medications for people in need through its mail order pharmacy. Our focus is on supporting low-income individuals and families who cannot afford the medicine they need to sustain or improve their quality of life. We offer over 500 different medications through our mail-order pharmacy. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| Xubex Affordable Quality Care | (866) 699-8239 | (407) 671-7960 | P.O. Box 1244 Winter Park, FL 32790 | Info@xubex.com www.xubex.com |
| <p>At Xubex®, we are dedicated to providing the most cost effective health care. Xubex® prides itself in bringing high value-added services and resources to our clients. Our services include the Patient Assistance Program for generics medications, Discount Drug Program, free one-month supply of selected medications, and Co-pay Assistance Program.</p> | | | | |

Eye Tissue Donation

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|--|-----------------------|--|--|
| Georgia Eye Bank, Inc. | (404) 264-1900 (800) 342-9812 | (404) 264-9111 | 5605 Glenridge Drive NE Suite 250 Atlanta, GA 30342 | sight@georgiaeyebank.org www.georgiaeyebank.org |
| <p>Georgia Eye Bank (GEB) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 1961. GEB, the exclusive provider of eye banking services in the state of Georgia, operates under strict ethical and professional standards. In the fight against blindness and visual impairment, Georgia Eye Bank recovers, processes, and provides donor eye tissue for eye surgeries and eye research studies and promotes and provides education pertaining to eye donation. It is our goal to provide eye tissue to every Georgian who needs the gift of sight.</p> | | | | |

Vision Research and Clinical Trials

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|--|-----------------------|---|--|
| Clinicaltrials.gov | | | | www.clinicaltrials.gov |
| ClinicalTrials.gov is a web-based resource that provides patients, their family members, health care professionals, researchers, and the public with easy access to information on publicly and privately supported clinical studies on a wide range of diseases and conditions. | | | | |
| Emory Eye Center | (404) 778-2020 | | 1365B Clifton Road NE Atlanta, GA 30322 | eyecenter@emory.edu www.eyecenter.emory.edu |
| Emory Eye Center is the largest, most comprehensive eye care facility in Georgia, with more than 100,000 patient visits annually. For more than 135 years, individuals of all ages have come to the Eye Center for care ranging from general examinations to treatment of the most complex vision disorders. With subspecialties in cornea, glaucoma, neuro-ophthalmology, ocular oncology/pathology, oculoplastics, pediatric ophthalmology, and retina, the Center is seen as a place of innovative treatment and groundbreaking research. | | | | |
| Foundation Fighting Blindness, Inc. | (410) 423-0600 (800) 683-5555 | (410) 423-0600 | 7168 Columbia Gateway Drive Suite 100 Columbia, MD 21046 | info@FightBlindness.org www.blindness.org |
| The urgent mission of the Foundation Fighting Blindness, Inc. is to drive the research that will provide preventions, treatments, and cures for people affected by retinitis pigmentosa (RP), macular degeneration, Usher syndrome, and the entire spectrum of retinal degenerative diseases. | | | | |
| National Eye Institute | (301) 496-5248 | (301) 496-2297 | 31 Center Drive MSC 2510 Bethesda, MD 20892 | 2020@nei.nih.gov www.nei.nih.gov |
| As part of the federal government's National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Eye Institute's mission is to conduct and support research, training, health information dissemination, and other programs with respect to blinding eye diseases, visual disorders, mechanisms of visual function, preservation of sight, and the special health problems and requirements of the blind. | | | | |
| Vision Health Initiative | (800) 232-4636 | | 4770 Buford Highway Mail Stop K-10 Atlanta, GA 30341 | www.cdc.gov/visionhealth |
| The Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Vision Health Initiative (VHI) has joined with others committed to vision health to create a more effective multilevel network for vision loss prevention and eye health promotion. VHI collaborates with state and national partners to strengthen science and develop interventions to improve eye health, reduce vision loss and blindness, and promote the health of people with vision loss. | | | | |

Aging Services

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| Atlanta Regional Commission | (404) 463-3100 | (404) 463-3105 | 40 Courtland Street, NE Atlanta, GA 30303 | www.atlantaregional.com |
| The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) is the regional planning and intergovernmental coordination agency for the 10-county area including the City of Atlanta. The ARC is the Area Agency on Aging and plans and provides comprehensive services to address the needs of the region's older population. The Atlanta region's Area Plan on Aging is carried out through contracts with ten county-based aging programs and 13 specialized agencies to provide a continuum of home and community-based services. | | | | |
| ElderCare Locator | (800) 677-1116 | | | eldercarelocator@n4a.org www.eldercare.gov |
| The Eldercare Locator is designed to help older adults and their families and caregivers find their way through the maze of services for seniors by identifying trustworthy local support resources. The goal is to provide users with the information and resources that will help older persons live independently and safely in their homes and communities for as long as possible. | | | | |
| Fulton County Housing and Human Services – Office of Aging | (404) 631-7944 | | 141 Pryor Street Atlanta, GA 30303 | housing.humanservices@fultoncountyga.gov http://fultoncountyga.gov/fchhs-divisions-and-programs/office-of-aging |
| The mission of the Office of Aging at Fulton County Housing and Human Services is to strengthen people, their families, and communities through partnerships with various community organizations and outreach programs. The Office of Aging's Information and Assistance program provides information, referral, and assistance to older adults (55 and older), their families/caregivers, and the community for the provision of appropriate resources to assist seniors to age in place. The STARline (404-613-6000) operates Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM and serves as the central access point for senior programs and services. | | | | |
| Georgia's Aging and Disability Resource Connection | (866) 552-4464 | (404) 657-5285 | 2 Peachtree Street NW 33rd Floor Atlanta, GA 30303 | chharris@dhr.state.ga.us www.georgiaadrc.com |
| Georgia's Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) is not a place or a program. It is a coordinated system of partnering organizations that are dedicated to providing accurate information about publicly and privately financed long-term supports and services, offering a consumer-oriented approach to learning about the availability of services in the home and community, alleviating the need for multiple calls and/or visits to receive services, and supporting individuals and family members who are aging or living with a disability. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Georgia Council on Aging | (404) 657-5343 | (404) 657-1722 | 2 Peachtree Street NW Suite 32.270 Atlanta, GA 30303 | kdfowler@dhr.state.ga.us www.gcoa.org |
| The Georgia Council on Aging was created in 1977 through state legislation to advocate with and on behalf of aging Georgians and their families to improve their quality of life, educate, advise, inform and make recommendations concerning programs for the elderly in Georgia, and serve in an advisory capacity on aging issues to the Governor, General Assembly, Board of Human Services, and all other state agencies. | | | | |
| Georgia Division of Aging Services | (404) 657-5258 (866) 552-4464 | (404) 657-5285 | 2 Peachtree Street NW 33 rd Floor Atlanta, GA 30303 | www.aging.dhs.georgia.gov |
| The Georgia Department of Human Services Division of Aging Services supports the larger goals of the Department of Human Services by assisting older individuals, at-risk adults, persons with disabilities, their families, and caregivers to achieve safe, healthy, independent, and self-reliant lives. | | | | |
| Project Independence: Georgia Vision Program for Seniors (Older Blind Program) | (404) 638-5208 (478) 751-6234 | (404) 638-5201 (478) 751-6446 | 755 Commerce Drive Suite 615 Decatur, GA 30030 | kay.mcgrill@gvra.ga.gov paul.raymond@gvra.ga.gov www.gvra.ga.gov |
| Project Independence provides services to help eligible persons who are at least 55 years of age and experiencing vision loss or a combined vision and hearing loss to remain independent. Services may include low vision evaluations, skills training in home and community, and support groups. The vision program for seniors is administered by the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency and contracts with six statewide service providers. For the one closest to you contact Kay McGill, Project Independence Program Manager, at 404-638-5208 or kay.mcgrill@gvra.ga.gov. | | | | |

National Vision Organizations

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------|--|---|
| American Academy of Ophthalmology | (415) 561-8500 | (415) 561-8533 | 655 Beach Street San Francisco, CA 94109 | customer_service@aao.org www.aao.org |
| The American Academy of Ophthalmology is the largest national membership association of Eye M.D.s. Eye M.D.s are ophthalmologists, medical, and osteopathic doctors who provide comprehensive eye care, including medical, surgical, and optical care. More than 90 percent of practicing U.S. Eye M.D.s are Academy members, and the Academy has more than 7,000 international members. | | | | |
| American Academy of Optometry | (321) 710-3937 (800) 969-4226 | (407) 893-9890 | 2909 Fairgreen Street Orlando, FL 32803 | aaoptom@aaoptom.org www.aaopt.org |
| The American Academy of Optometry (AAO) is an organization of optometrists. Its goal is to maintain and enhance excellence in optometric practice, by both promoting research and the dissemination of knowledge. The AAO holds an annual meeting, publishes a monthly scientific journal, credentials optometrists through the fellowship process, and publishes position statements. | | | | |
| American Council of the Blind | (202) 467-5081 (800) 424-8666 | (703) 465-5085 | 2200 Wilson Blvd. Suite 650 Arlington, VA 22201 | info@acb.org www.acb.org |
| The American Council of the Blind is a consumer-based organization of blind and visually impaired Americans advocating for the rights of blind Americans. Comprised of more than 70 affiliates across the United States, the organization is dedicated to making it possible for blind and visually impaired Americans to participate fully in all aspects of American society. | | | | |
| American Foundation for the Blind | (404) 525-2303 | (404) 659-6957 | 100 Peachtree Street NE Suite 2145 Atlanta, GA 30303 | literacy@afb.net www.afb.org |
| The American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) removes barriers, creates solutions, and expands possibilities so people with vision loss can achieve their full potential. AFB's Public Policy Center collaborates with policy makers in Congress and the Executive Branch to ensure Americans with vision loss have equal rights and opportunities to fully participate in society. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| American Optometric Association | (800) 365-2219 | (314) 991-4101 | 243 N. Lindbergh Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63141 | www.aoa.org |
| The American Optometric Association (AOA) represents approximately 36,000 doctors of optometry, optometry students, and paraoptometric assistants and technicians. Optometrists serve patients in nearly 6,500 communities across the country, and in 3,500 of those communities are the only eye doctors. Doctors of optometry provide two-thirds of all primary eye care in the United States. Together, the AOA and its affiliates work to provide the public with quality vision and eye care. Through offices in St. Louis, Missouri, and metropolitan Washington, D.C., the AOA: sets professional standards, helps its members conduct patient care efficiently and effectively, lobbies government and other organizations on behalf of the optometric profession, and provides research and education leadership. | | | | |
| Foundation Fighting Blindness, Inc. | (410) 423-0600 (800) 683-5555 | (410) 423-0600 | 7168 Columbia Gateway Drive Suite 100 Columbia, MD 21046 | info@FightBlindness.org www.blindness.org |
| The urgent mission of the Foundation Fighting Blindness, Inc. (FFB) is to drive the research that will provide preventions, treatments, and cures for people affected by retinitis pigmentosa (RP), macular degeneration, Usher syndrome, and the entire spectrum of retinal degenerative diseases. FFB depends on its trustees and a nationwide volunteer fundraising network comprised of over 50 chapters to raise more than \$33 million annually to fund its research initiatives. The organization's professional staff provides management and administrative support, both from the national office in Columbia, Maryland, and the eight regional offices located throughout the United States. | | | | |
| National Eye Institute | (301) 496-5248 | (301) 496-2297 | 31 Center Drive MSC 2510 Bethesda, MD 20892 | 2020@nei.nih.gov www.nei.nih.gov |
| As part of the federal government's National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Eye Institute's mission is to conduct and support research, training, health information dissemination, and other programs with respect to blinding eye diseases, visual disorders, mechanisms of visual function, preservation of sight, and the special health problems and requirements of the blind. | | | | |
| National Federation of the Blind | (404) 371-1000 (866) 316-3242 | (404) 371-1002 | 315 West Ponce De Leon Ave. Decatur, GA 30030 | www.nfbga.org |
| Founded in 1940, the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) advocates for the civil rights and equality of blind Americans, and develops innovative education, technology, and training programs to provide the blind and those who are losing vision with the tools they need to become independent and successful. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|---|
| Prevent Blindness America | (800) 331-2020 | (312) 363-6052 | 211 West Wacker Drive Suite 1700 Chicago, IL 60606 | www.preventblindness.org |
| <p>Founded in 1908, Prevent Blindness America (PBA) is the nation's leading volunteer eye health and safety organization dedicated to fighting blindness and saving sight. Focused on promoting a continuum of vision care, PBA touches the lives of millions of people each year through public and professional education, advocacy, certified vision screening training, community and patient service programs, and research. These services are made possible through the generous support of the American public. Together with a network of affiliates, divisions and chapters, PBA is committed to eliminating preventable blindness in America.</p> | | | | |
| Vision Health Initiative | (800) 232-4636 | | 4770 Buford Highway Mail Stop K-10 Atlanta, GA 30341 | www.cdc.gov/visionhealth |
| <p>The Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Vision Health Initiative (VHI) has joined with others committed to vision health to create a more effective multilevel network for vision loss prevention and eye health promotion. VHI collaborates with state and national partners to strengthen science and develop interventions to improve eye health, reduce vision loss and blindness, and promote the health of people with vision loss.</p> | | | | |

A graphic of the state of Georgia in light blue, with a stylized eye in grey and blue tones overlaid on it. The eye has a circular iris with radiating lines.

Vision Rehabilitation and Low Vision Resources

Advocacy and Education Organizations

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| American Council of the Blind | (202) 467-5081 (800) 424-8666 | (703) 465-5085 | 2200 Wilson Blvd. Suite 650 Arlington, VA 22201 | info@acb.org www.acb.org |
| The American Council of the Blind is the largest consumer-based organization of blind and visually impaired Americans advocating for the rights of blind Americans. Comprised of more than 70 affiliates across the United States, the organization is dedicated to making it possible for blind and visually impaired Americans to participate fully in all aspects of American society. | | | | |
| American Foundation for the Blind | (404) 525-2303 | (404) 659-6957 | 100 Peachtree Street NE Suite 2145 Atlanta, GA 30303 | literacy@afb.net www.afb.org |
| The American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) removes barriers, creates solutions, and expands possibilities so people with vision loss can achieve their full potential. AFB's Public Policy Center collaborates with policy makers in Congress and the Executive Branch to ensure Americans with vision loss have equal rights and opportunities to fully participate in society. | | | | |
| Georgia Council of the Blind | (706) 208-7132 (888) 519-3988 | | 145 Barrington Drive Athens, GA 30605 | www.georgiacounciloftheblind.org |
| A sector of the American Council of the Blind, the Georgia Council of the Blind is an organization mainly made up of blind and visually impaired people who want to achieve independence and equality. | | | | |
| Hadley School for the Blind | (847) 446-8111 (800) 323-4238 | (847) 446-9820 | 700 Elm Street Winnetka, IL 60093 | info@hadley.edu www.hadley.edu |
| Hadley School for the Blind is the largest provider of distance education for people who are blind or visually impaired around the world, serving more than 10,000 students annually in all 50 states and 100 countries. Hadley's Adult Continuing Education (ACE) Program offers a variety of courses for individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Topics range from braille and academic studies to independent living, technology, business and employment skills, and recreation. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------|---|--|
| National Federation of the Blind of Georgia | (404) 371-1000 (866) 316-3242 | (404) 371-1002 | 315 W Ponce De Leon Ave. Decatur, GA 30030 | www.nfbga.org |
| Founded in 1940, the National Federation of the Blind of Georgia (NFB) advocates for the civil rights and equality of blind Americans, and develops innovative education, technology, and training programs to provide the blind and those who are losing vision with the tools they need to become independent and successful. | | | | |

Blind and/or Low Vision Service Providers

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Albany Advocacy Resource Center – Center for the Blind | (229) 888-6852 | (229) 439-2260 | 1500-B Gillionville Road Albany, GA 31707 | crobinson@albanygaarc.org www.albanyarc.org |
| The mission of the Albany Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) is to create life changing solutions for people with disabilities. Albany ARC wants patients to obtain and maintain skills needed to live a productive life through training of independent living skills which may include: independent living, computer training, adjusting to blindness, orientation and mobility, peer support, advocacy, Braille training, and leisure activities. | | | | |
| Center for the Visually Impaired | (404) 875-9011 | (404) 607-0062 | 739 West Peachtree Street NW Atlanta, GA 30308 | info@cviga.org www.cviga.org |
| For 50 years, the Center for the Visually Impaired (CVI) has empowered people with vision loss to live with independence and dignity. Our rehabilitation services are both comprehensive and varied, and we serve people of all ages. CVI provides low vision clinics, support groups, and early childhood, youth, and adult services at our Midtown Center and in client homes and community settings. | | | | |
| Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency | (866) 489-0001 (404) 232-1998 | (404) 232-1800 | 2 Peachtree Street NW Atlanta, GA 30303 | GVRACustomer-service@gvra.ga.gov www.gvra.georgia.gov |
| The Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (VR) provides services to help eligible persons with disabilities prepare for, start, and maintain competitive employment, thus becoming productive and independent citizens in their communities. VR has 15 regional offices statewide, as well as more than 50 local offices with expert teams who work in the community and have in-depth knowledge of both the marketplace and the support services available. Customers are therefore able to benefit from opportunities tailored to their specific needs. | | | | |
| Project Independence: Georgia Vision Program for Seniors (Older Blind Program) | (404) 638-5208 (478) 751-6234 | (404) 638-5201 (478) 751-6446 | 755 Commerce Drive Suite 615 Decatur, GA 30030 | kay.mcgill@gvra.ga.gov paul.raymond@gvra.ga.gov www.gvra.ga.gov |
| Project Independence provides services to help eligible persons who are at least 55 years of age and experiencing vision loss or a combined vision and hearing loss to remain independent. Services may include low vision evaluations, skills training in home and community, and support groups. The vision program for seniors is administered by the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency and contracts with six statewide service providers. For the one closest to you contact Kay McGill, Project Independence Program Manager, at 404-638-5208 or kay.mcgill@gvra.ga.gov. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|---|----------------|--|--|
| Savannah Center for Blind and Low Vision | (912) 236-4473 | (912) 234-9286 | 214 Drayton Street Savannah, GA 31401 | www.savannahcblv.org |
| While always respecting the dignity and rights of blind and visually impaired individuals, the mission of the Savannah Center for Blind and Low Vision is the provision of quality services and activities designed to help each person served adjust to a severe vision loss and to function independently at home and in the community. To carry out our mission, we offer programs and services designed to provide high quality training in compensatory skills essential for the dignified, independent quality of life our students deserve. Completing our mission requires that we also strive to instill self-confidence and esteem in our students since this is necessary to gain a sense of comfort with vision loss or blindness. | | | | |
| VA Medical Center, Atlanta | (404) 321-6111 ext. 1-6660 (800) 224-4087 | (404) 728-7733 | 1670 Clairmont Way NE Atlanta, GA 30329 | www.atlanta.va.gov |
| The Advanced Low Vision Services Program at the Atlanta VA Medical Center provides Comprehensive Services to Veterans that are blind or visually impaired. Our services provide training in living skills, low vision, and orientation and mobility. The vision rehabilitation specialists work with veterans on a one-to one basis. A Visually Impaired Services Team (VIST) Coordinator, also part of the Low Vision Services, provides legally blinded veterans with resources offered by the VA and the community. | | | | |
| VA Medical Center, Augusta (Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center) | (706) 733-0188 (888) 483-9674 | (706) 731-7227 | 1 Freedom Way Uptown Augusta, GA 30904 | www.augusta.va.gov |
| Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center's vision is to be recognized locally, regionally, and nationally as a leader in quality patient care, positive customer service, medical/allied health education, health-related research, and employment opportunities. The VA Medical Center has a 15 bed CARF-Accredited Unit designed to guide legally blind veterans and active duty service members through a process that eventually leads to maximum adjustment to the disability, reorganization of the person's life, and return to a contributing place in the family and community. | | | | |
| Vision Rehabilitation Services of Georgia | (770) 432-7280 | (770) 432-5457 | 3830 South Cobb Drive Suite 125 Smyrna, GA 30080 | kgomillion@vrsga.org www.vrsga.org |
| Vision Rehabilitation Services of Georgia (VRS), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is dedicated to assisting individuals who are visually impaired, blind and deaf/blind so they may function safely and independently in all of their environments. Our certified instructors build a custom plan of service based on the needs of each individual client. VRS services include: comprehensive low-vision evaluations, instruction in a variety of daily living skills, safe travel (orientation and mobility), access technology training in magnification and speech software programs, and transition to vision loss counseling. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| The VISTAS Center | (706) 583-8001 | (706) 583-8844 | 337 South Milledge Ave. Suite 200 Athens, GA 30605 | vistascenter@charter.net www.vistascenter.org |
| VISTAS is one of many initiatives sponsored by the Institute for Community and Organizational Development, Inc., a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt educational institution based in Athens-Clarke County, Georgia. The project's mission is to help promote self-sufficiency for the visually impaired by using advanced technologies to provide them and their families with training, education, and advocacy services. | | | | |
| Walton Options for Independent Living, Inc. | (706) 724-6262 (877) 821-8400 | (706) 724-6729 | 948 Walton Way Augusta, GA 30901 | www.waltonoptions.org |
| Walton Options for Independent Living, Inc.'s mission is to empower people of all ages, regardless of disability, by promoting personal choice, independence, community inclusion, and competitive employment. As a center for independent living, Walton Options offers four core services: information and referral, advocacy, independent living skills, and peer support. In addition, Walton Options also offers services for people transitioning from institutional to community living, either independently or through the Money Follows the Person initiative. | | | | |

Centers for Independent Living

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|--|-----------------------|--|---|
| Access 2 Independence: Columbus Center for Independent Living | (706) 405-2393 | | 1315 Delauney Ave. Suite 201 Columbus, GA 31901 | info@access2independence.com www.access2independence.com |
| Access 2 Independence (A2I) is a non-residential center for independent living as well as a private non-profit organization. Serving people of all ages with all types of disabilities is our goal. We serve Muscogee county and are consumer controlled. Access 2 Independence's main goals are to help make sense of information and community resources that relate to disability, connect people with disabilities together with peers who share their own valuable life experiences, empower individual to advocate in their own lives and advocating for the rights of all people with disabilities, give people with disabilities the knowledge and skills to lead a more productive and independent life, and assist people to relocate from nursing homes, schools, and other institutions into their own community. | | | | |
| BAIN (Bainbridge Advocacy Individual Network) | (229) 246-0150 (888) 830-1530 | (229) 246-1715 | 316 W Shotwell Street Bainbridge, GA 39819 | bain@surfsouth.com www.baincil.org |
| The Bainbridge Advocacy Individual Network (BAIN) was established in June 1995. BAIN is a grassroots, non-profit, community based, advocacy organization founded by two disabled persons, Virginia Close Harris and the late Eddie Bulger. The staff provides independent living skills training in any life area in which the consumer has a goal to become independent. BAIN provides individuals with disabilities, family members, other service providers, and the community at large with information on options and resources, which enable people with disabilities to live more self-sufficiently. Staff works with you to understand your rights and obtain the support services you need to live independently, as well as BAIN staff, board members, and volunteers initiating activities to make changes in the community that make it easier for all persons with disabilities to live more independently. | | | | |
| Disability Connections | (478) 741-1425 | (478) 755-1571 | 170 College Street Macon, GA 31201 | info@disabilityconnections.com www.disabilityconnections.com |
| Disability Connections' goal is to enable all people with disabilities to attain and have access to all opportunities in life. Disability Connections offers five core services: information and referral, peer support, advocacy, independent living skills training, and nursing home transition. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|--|-----------------------|---|--|
| disABILITY LINK | (404) 687-8890 | (404) 687-8298 | 755 Commerce Drive Suite 105 Decatur, GA 30030 | info@disabilitylink.org www.disabilitylink.org/wordpress |
| disABILITY LINK is a grassroots organization with goals, decisions, and control of services led by people with disabilities. It is designed to increase independence, access, and equal rights for everyone through the empowerment of people with disabilities. disABILITY LINK is committed to promoting the rights of all people with disabilities. As a Center for Independent Living (CIL) disABILITY LINK offers four core services: information and referrals, independent living skills training, advocacy on a systems and individual level and peer support. We also offer employment services, Independent Care Waiver Program service coordination, nursing home transition, and travel training. | | | | |
| Disability Resource Center (formerly ACIL) | (770) 534-6656 (888) 534 7144 | (770) 534-6626 | 470 A Woodsmill Road Gainesville, GA 30501 | Bob.McGarry@disabilityresourcecenter.org www.disabilityresourcecenter.org |
| Disability Resource Center (DRC) is a 501(c)(3) private, non-profit organization that is committed to providing an array of services to assist individuals with disabilities to live independently, pursue meaningful goals, and have the same opportunities and choices as all persons. DRC was established in 1996 to meet the need for a resource and empowerment center for people with disabilities in Northeast Georgia. DRC is linked with a reputable national network of Centers for Independent Living, which has been functioning since 1984 to assist and empower people with disabilities in becoming independent. DRC serves as a resource center for thirteen Northeast Georgia counties and their residents. | | | | |
| LIFE (Living Independence for Everyone), Inc. | (912) 920-2414 (800) 948-4824 | (912) 920-0007 | 5105 Paulsen Street Suite 143-B Savannah, GA 31405 | savlifecil@gmail.com www.lifecil.com |
| LIFE, Inc. is a non-profit service and advocacy organization run by and for people with disabilities. Our mission is to level the playing field for people with disabilities in order to create a world in which EVERYONE can fully participate. LIFE embraces and adheres to the independent living philosophy. This philosophy is based on the core independent living concepts of consumer control, self-advocacy, community change, cross disability participation, and the core independent living services of information and referral, peer support, skills training, advocacy and promoting full access to community life. | | | | |
| Multiple Choices Center for Independent Living, Inc. | (706) 549-3131 | (706) 549-1060 | 850 Gaines School Road Athens, GA 30605 | info@multiplechoices.us www.multiplechoices.us |
| The mission of Multiple Choices Center for Independent Living, Inc. is to break down all barriers to inclusion by enhancing equality of life and empowering people, children and adults, with disabilities through advocacy, education, and training. Our services include peer counseling, assistive technology (mobility, vision, and hearing), advocacy training and support groups, and direct service training upon request (mobility orientation, sign language, and Braille). The Multiple Choices Center for Independent Living is an incubator for Self-Employment Micro Enterprise projects. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| NWGA Center for Independent Living (formerly disABILITY LINK NW) | (706) 314-0008 (866) 888-7845 | (706) 314-0011 | 242 North 5th Ave. Rome, GA 30165 | www.nwgacil.org |
| Since 2004, Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living has four core services: information and referral, independent living skills training, advocacy, and peer support. The center also assists with nursing home transitions, a youth program, Alzheimer's Caring Closet, Touch the Future (TTF) program (which assists with various durable medical equipment) and the ReBOOT computer program. | | | | |
| Statewide Independent Living Council of Georgia, Inc. (SILC) | (770) 270-6860 | (770) 270-5957 | 1431 McLendon Drive Decatur, GA 30033 | www.silcga.org |
| The Statewide Independent Living Council of Georgia, Inc. (SILC) is a private nonprofit corporation governed by people with all types of disabilities from all across the state. The role of SILC is to identify societal barriers to independent living and to collaborate with Centers for Independent Living, Rehabilitation Services, and other related entities to remove those barriers and to increase the support and services needed to create independent living opportunities. SILC activities include sponsoring public hearings, quarterly public meetings, and other educational and outreach efforts; providing information to public officials, state agencies and local organizations and individuals; and conducting studies and research. | | | | |
| Walton Options for Independent Living, Inc. | (706) 724-6262 (877) 821-8400 | (706) 724-6729 | 948 Walton Way Augusta, GA 30901 | www.waltonoptions.org |
| Walton Options for Independent Living, Inc.'s mission is to empower people of all ages, regardless of disability, by promoting personal choice, independence, community inclusion and competitive employment. As a Center for Independent Living, Walton Options offers four core services: information and referral, advocacy, independent living skills and peer support. In addition, Walton Options also offers services for people transitioning from institutional to community living, either independently or through the Money Follows the Person initiative. | | | | |

Employment Assistance Programs

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------|---|--|
| Albany Advocacy Resource Center – Center for the Blind | (229) 888-6852 | (229) 439-2260 | 1500-B Gillionville Road Albany, GA 31707 | crobinson@albanygaarc.org www.albanyarc.org |
| The mission of the Albany Advocacy Resource Center is to obtain and maintain skills needed to live a productive life through training of independent living skills which may include some or all of the following: independent living, computer training, adjusting to blindness, orientation and mobility, peer support, advocacy, Braille training, and leisure activities. | | | | |
| Center for the Visually Impaired | (404) 875-9011 | (404) 607-0062 | 739 West Peachtree Street NW Atlanta, GA 30308 | info@cviga.org www.cviga.org |
| For 50 years, the Center for the Visually Impaired (CVI) has empowered people with vision loss to live with independence and dignity. As Georgia's largest comprehensive, fully accredited organization providing rehabilitation services, we serve people of all ages who are blind or visually impaired. CVI can guide you at every step along the way to get a job -- from career counseling and job readiness classes to resume and cover letter writing. Once you're ready to move forward, we'll help you find the employment that you want. Sign up for our mailing list by sending an email to careerservices@cviga.org with your request. | | | | |
| Georgia Industries for the Blind | (404) 232-1788 | (229) 248-2669 | 700 Faceville Highway PO Box 218 Bainbridge, GA 39819 | kevin.harris@gvra.ga.gov www.gvra.georgia.gov/gib/ |
| The mission of Georgia Industries for the Blind (GIB) is to provide employment opportunities for people who are blind. GIB works in conjunction with the Vocational Rehabilitation program and the National Industries for the Blind to provide employment to blind individuals across the nation. | | | | |
| Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency | (866) 489-0001 (404) 232-1998 | (404) 232-1800 | 2 Peachtree Street NW Atlanta, GA 30303 | GVRACustomer-service@gvra.ga.gov www.gvra.georgia.gov |
| Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (VR) provides services to help eligible persons with disabilities prepare for, start, and maintain competitive employment, thus becoming productive and independent citizens in their communities. VR has 15 regional offices statewide, as well as more than 50 local offices with expert teams who work in the community and have in-depth knowledge of both the marketplace and the support services available. Customers are therefore able to benefit from opportunities tailored to their specific needs. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| Savannah Center for Blind and Low Vision | (912) 236-4473 | (912) 234-9286 | 214 Drayton Street Savannah, GA 31401 | www.savannahcblv.org |
| While always respecting the dignity and rights of blind and visually impaired individuals, the mission of Savannah Center for Blind and Low Vision (CBLV) is the provision of quality services and activities designed to help each person served adjust to a severe vision loss and to function independently at home and in the community. To carry out our mission, we offer programs and services designed to provide high quality training in compensatory skills essential for the dignified, independent quality of life our students deserve. Completing our mission requires that we also strive to instill self-confidence and esteem in our students since this is necessary to gain a sense of comfort with a vision loss or blindness. | | | | |
| Vision Rehabilitation Services of Georgia | (770) 432-7280 | (770) 432-5457 | 3830 South Cobb Drive Suite 125 Smyrna, GA 30080 | kgomillion@vrsga.org www.vrsga.org |
| Vision Rehabilitation Services of Georgia, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is dedicated to assisting individuals who are visually impaired, blind, and deaf/blind so they may function safely and independently in all of their environments. Our Access Technology Training equips individuals with vision loss with specific skills and technology tools for living and working independently. Taught by certified instructors, clients are provided with individual instruction in basic computer skills as well as instruction in using speech or magnification software programs so they can get jobs. | | | | |
| The VISTAS Center | (706) 583-8001 | (706) 583-8844 | 337 South Milledge Ave. Suite 200 Athens, GA 30605 | pchavis@charter.net www.vistascenter.org |
| VISTAS is one of many initiatives sponsored by the Institute for Community and Organizational Development, Inc., a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt educational institution based in Athens-Clarke County, Georgia. The project's mission is to help promote self-sufficiency for the visually impaired by using advanced technologies to provide them and their families with training, education, and advocacy services. | | | | |
| Walton Options for Independent Living, Inc. | (706) 724-6262 (877) 821-8400 | (706) 724-6729 | 948 Walton Way Augusta, GA 30901 | www.waltonoptions.org |
| Walton Options for Independent Living, Inc.'s mission is to empower people of all ages, regardless of disability, by promoting personal choice, independence, community inclusion and competitive employment. | | | | |

Georgia Talking Book Libraries

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------|---|---|
| Alternative Media Access Center | (404) 894-8000 (866) 279-2964 | (404) 894-8323 | 512 Means Street NW Suite 250 Atlanta, GA 30318 | amactech@amac.gatech.edu www.amacusg.org |
| Alternative Media Access Center (AMAC) was incubated out of the University System of Georgia in 2005 to help post-secondary disability services offices provide complete, timely, efficient accommodations to print-disabled students so they can be more independent and productive in their academic environments. Today, as a unit of the Georgia Tech Enterprise Innovation Institute, AMAC's expertise, tools, and technology empower not only college disability service providers, but also K-12 educators, corporations, non-profits, and government institutions throughout the United States, to provide equal access to education, work, and life for individuals with disabilities of all kinds. | | | | |
| Atlanta Metro Library for Accessible Services | (404) 657-1452 (800) 248-6701 | (404) 657-1459 | 1 Margaret Mitchell Square Atlanta, GA 30303 | www.georgialibraries.org/amlas |
| The Atlanta Metro Library for Accessible Services (AMLAS) provides free library service for Atlanta-metro patrons of all ages who are unable to read standard print material due to visual or physical disability. Our books and magazines are available on digital cartridges, cassette, and in Braille, and we also provide playback machines. AMLAS is part of the Georgia Library for Accessible Statewide Services (GLASS). | | | | |
| Chattahoochee Valley Libraries | (706) 243-2669 (800) 652-0782 | (706) 243-2710 | 3000 Macon Road Columbus, GA 31906 | class@cvrls.net www.cvlga.org |
| The Chattahoochee Valley Libraries is a seven-branch system that serves more than 250,000 people in four counties: Muscogee, Chattahoochee, Marion, and Stewart. The Library system is the most widely used cultural institution in the region, with more than 120,000 residents holding Library Cards. The Library plays an essential role in the community as a trusted resource and center for civic engagement. The staff provides services that are accessible, convenient, and responsive to community needs by using traditional formats and innovative technologies. | | | | |
| East Central Georgia Talking Book Center | (706) 821-2625 | (706) 724-5403 | 823 Telfair Street Augusta, GA 30901 | talkbook@ecgrl.org www.ecgrl.public.lib.ga.us/lbph.htm |
| Through the Georgia Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped and cooperating local libraries, Georgians have access to a free national library program which offers braille and recorded materials. The materials are provided by the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) to eligible visually and physically handicapped persons. All reading material and equipment is sent to borrowers and returned by postage-free mail. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------|---|--|
| Georgia Libraries for Accessible Services | (404) 235-7200 (800) 248-6701 | (404) 235-7201 | 1800 Century Place NE Suite 150 Atlanta, GA 30345 | glass@georgialibraries.org www.georgialibraries.org/public/glass.html |
| Georgia Libraries for Accessible Services (GLASS) is the statewide network of talking book centers that provide library services for the blind and others whose physical abilities require the use of books and magazines in audio format or in Braille. GLASS loans specially recorded books in audio formats, specialized playback machines, and Braille materials. GLASS serves Georgia residents through a network of regional libraries and outreach centers and a central administrative and distribution center. Library users who are not able to visit one of the libraries in person may obtain talking books and other materials through the mail free of charge. | | | | |
| Georgia Radio Reading Service | (404) 685-2820 (800) 672-6173 | | 260 14th Street NW Atlanta, GA 30318 | garrrinfo@gpb.org www.garrrs.net |
| As the State's only radio reading service, the Georgia Radio Reading Service (GaRRS) is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit closed circuit radio station whose mission is to improve the quality of life for every Georgian who is blind, visually-impaired, or has difficulty with access to the printed word by broadcasting current information via sub channel radio transmission and streaming on the internet. | | | | |
| Georgia Regional Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped | (229) 248-2680 | (229) 248-2670 | 301 South Monroe Street Bainbridge, GA 39819 | lbph@swgrl.org www.swgrl.org/local/lbph/LBPH1.HTM |
| The overall purpose of the Georgia Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (the Regional Library) and its 13 sub-regional libraries is to provide library services to blind and physically handicapped citizens of Georgia. Through these libraries, patrons have access to books-on-tape (talking books) and special playback equipment, Braille materials, and reader advisory services. Patrons who are not able to visit one of the libraries in person may obtain talking books and other materials through the mail. | | | | |
| Live Oak Public Libraries, Thunderbolt Branch, Sub-Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped | (912) 652-3600 | | 2002 Bull Street Savannah, GA 31401 | lbphsav@liveoakpl.org www.liveoakpl.org |
| Live Oak Public Libraries provides excellent, responsive service to enrich people's lives, support lifelong learning, and build and enhance our communities. The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped offers the Talking Book service which provides recorded books and magazines and the necessary playback equipment free of charge to eligible individuals. Individuals who are unable to use printed materials due to a visual or physical impairment are eligible for this free service. The impairment may be temporary or permanent. The Savannah Library for the Blind serves the following counties in Southeast Georgia: Chatham, Effingham, Liberty, Bryan, Bulloch, Candler, Emanuel, Evans, Jenkins, and Screven. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------|--|---|
| Middle Georgia Library for Accessible Services | (478) 744-0877 (800) 805-7613 | | 1180 Washington Ave. Macon, GA 31201 | Mgrltbc2@bibblib.org www.co.bibb.ga.us/library/TBC.htm |
| Middle Georgia Library for Accessible Services (MGLA) is a sub-regional library of the Georgia Library for Accessible Statewide Services (GLASS). Patrons receive on loan an easy to use digital player and digital books of their choice. Registered patrons are also eligible to sign up for BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download). | | | | |
| Northeast Georgia Talking Book Center | (706) 613-3655 (800) 531-2063 | (706) 613-3660 | 2025 Baxter Street Athens, GA 30606 | talkingbooks@athenslibrary.org www.athenslibrary.org/talking-book-center |
| The Northeast Georgia Talking Book Center provides free library services for patrons with visual, physical, and reading disabilities. The Center loans books and magazines in audio and Braille formats, as well as the necessary players. Books and players are mailed back and forth at no cost to the patron. | | | | |
| Northwest Georgia Talking Book Library | (706) 236-4618 (888) 263-0769 | (706) 236-4631 | 205 Riverside Parkway NE Rome, GA 30161 | www.rome-lpd.org |
| The Northwest Georgia Talking Book Library provides free library service to the disabled in 21 counties of Northwest Georgia. Services offered include: books by mail, catalog of books, descriptive videos, equipment for in-house use, equipment loans and repairs, and magazine and newspaper recordings. | | | | |

Hearing and Vision Loss Resources

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------|---|---|
| Georgia Association of the Deaf-Blind | (770) 270-1537 | (770) 908-2220 | 3037 Millstone Court Austell, GA 30106 | franklevine@atlantabraillerrepair.com www.aadb.org/resources/db_organizations/georgia.html |
| Georgia Association of the Deaf-Blind (GADB) provides the information, support, and advocacy that empowers and improves the quality of life of deaf-blind people. Business meetings are held the second Saturday of every other month; socials are held quarterly. GADB provides advocacy, education to public, workshops, and social activities. GADB also has a camp, which provides education and activities for people with deaf-blindness. | | | | |
| Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency | (866) 489-0001 (404) 232-1998 | (404) 232-1800 | 2 Peachtree Street NW Atlanta, GA 30303 | GVRACustomer-service@gvra.ga.gov www.gvra.georgia.gov |
| Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (VR) provides services to help eligible persons with disabilities prepare for, start, and maintain competitive employment, thus becoming productive and independent citizens in their communities. VR has 15 regional offices statewide, as well as more than 50 local offices with expert teams who work in the community and have in-depth knowledge of both the marketplace and the support services available. Customers are therefore able to benefit from opportunities tailored to their specific needs. Regional and unit office staffs develop referral sources for the purpose of identifying and reaching eligible individuals with disabilities who can, will, and want to work for blind or deaf/blind individuals. | | | | |
| Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults | (516) 944-8900 | (516) 944-7302 | 141 Middle Neck Road Sands Point, NY 11050 | hkncinfor@hknc.org www.hknc.org |
| The mission of the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults is to enable each person who is deaf-blind to live and work in his or her community of choice. Authorized by an Act of Congress in 1967, the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults (HKNC) is a national rehabilitation program serving youth and adults who are deaf-blind. The Center provides services to youth and adults who are deaf-blind according to the definition of deaf-blindness in the Helen Keller Act. | | | | |

Low Vision Aids and Devices

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| American Printing House for the Blind, Inc. | (502) 895-2405 (800) 223-1839 | (502) 899-2284 | 1839 Frankfort Ave. PO Box 6085 Louisville, KY 40206 | info@aph.org www.aph.org |
| The American Printing House for the Blind (APH) is the world's largest nonprofit organization creating educational, workplace, and independent living products and services for people who are visually impaired. | | | | |
| iCanConnect Georgia | (404) 292-5312 | (404) 299-3642 | 4151 Memorial Drive Suite 103-B Decatur, GA 30032 | srjohnson@gachi.org www.icanconnect.org/georgia |
| The goal of iCanConnect is to educate people about the availability of communications technology through the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP) for people with combined hearing and vision disabilities, and to increase opportunities for independence for this underserved population to stay connected with family, friends, healthcare and service providers, schools and communities, and the workforce. If you meet income requirements, you can receive free communications technology designed for people with combined vision and hearing loss. Installation, training and technical support are also available. | | | | |
| Mons International, Inc. | (770) 926-8002 (800) 541-7903 | (770) 926-7883 | 6595 Roswell Road NE #224 Atlanta, GA 30328 | salesinfo@magnifiers.com www.magnifiers.com |
| Through professional guidance, Mons International, Inc. is committed to helping its visually impaired customers locate, acquire, and use the most current and innovative services, resources, and tools available to enable them to retain and/or regain their independence. | | | | |
| Tools for Life: Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program | (404) 638-0390 (800) 497-8665 | (404) 486-0218 | 1700 Century Circle Suite 300 Atlanta, GA 30345 | info@gatfl.org www.gatfl.org |
| Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work, and play independently and with greater freedom in communities of their choice. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|-----------------------|------------|---|--|
| VisAbility Store at the Center for the Visually Impaired | (404) 602-4358 | | 739 West Peachtree Street NW Atlanta, GA 30308 | www.cviga.org/visability_store/ www.visabilitystore.org/index.htm |
| <p>Visit CVI's non-profit VisAbility Store or its website to access to more than 1,000 products that can help make your life a little easier. Whether you are blind, visually impaired, or simply can't see the way you used to, VisAbility has specialized items created for your specific needs. VisAbility offers low vision aids, stand magnifiers, hand-held magnifiers, eyewear, lamps and task lighting, assistive technology products, CCTVs, hand-held video magnifiers, magnification software, instant reading machines, home health care and medical aids, talking blood glucose systems, talking blood pressure monitors, kitchen and cooking aids, talking watches, talking clocks, big button telephones, and amplified telephones.</p> | | | | |

Financial Loans for Low Vision Aids and Devices

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| The Center for Financial Independence & Innovation, Inc. | (404) 541-9005 | (888) 724-2287 | 315 W. Ponce de Leon Ave. Suite 600 Decatur, GA 30030 | caroline@thecfii.org www.thecfii.org |
| The Center for Financial Independence & Innovation, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping individuals with disabilities and their family members advance their financial independence and security. We achieve this mission through strategic partnerships and programs designed to improve the financial self-sufficiency of Georgians with disabilities. | | | | |

Recreation and Entertainment Resources

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------|--|---|
| American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults | (410) 659-9315 ext. 2287 | (410) 685-2340 | 1800 Johnson Street Baltimore, MD 21230 | actionfund@actionfund.org www.actionfund.org |
| The American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults is an organization devoted to assisting blind youth, elderly blind, and deaf blind individuals when they are not able to find the assistance they need from governmental agencies or other entities. The Kenneth Jernigan Library for Blind Children, a lending library, is a nonprofit charitable foundation dedicated to the reading pleasure and education of blind children and young adults. The Library is unique in that we do not have "walk-in" patrons. Books are selected and then distributed to our patrons solely by mail. Because books are in a continual state of flux, it is impossible to offer a complete catalogue of available books. Library books are distributed to subscribers free of charge for a period not to exceed three months. | | | | |
| Georgia Blind Sports Association | (770) 317-2035 | | 220 Oak Forest Drive SE Smyrna, GA 30082 | JudyByrd@gmail.com www.gablindsports.com |
| Georgia Blind Sports Association (GBSA) mission is to help visually impaired people all over Georgia discover their athletic potential, from recreational fun to the Paralympics. Founded in 2011, Georgia Blind Sports Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation that serves as an advocate for youth and adult visually impaired athletes in Georgia. GBSA currently has 3 active sports in Georgia- Goalball, Baseball, and Kickball. | | | | |
| Georgia Lions' Camp for the Blind, Inc. | (912) 283-4320 (888) 297-1775 | (888) 297-1775 | 5626 Laura Walker Road Waycross, GA 31503 | glcblindsec@accessatc.net www.glcb.org |
| It is the mission of the Georgia Lions' Camp for the Blind, Inc. to provide personal growth experiences for children, teens, and adults with visual impairments through the use of recreation, education, socialization, and rehabilitation in an outdoor setting | | | | |
| Georgia Radio Reading Service | (404) 685-2820 (800) 672-6173 | | 260 14th Street NW Atlanta, GA 30318 | garinfo@gpb.org www.garrrs.net |
| As the state's only radio reading service, the Georgia Radio Reading Service (GaRRS) is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit closed circuit radio station whose mission is to improve the quality of life for every Georgian who is blind, visually-impaired or has difficulty with access to the printed word by broadcasting current information via sub channel radio transmission and streaming on the internet. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|--|-----------------------|---|--|
| Learning Ally | (706) 549-1313 | | 120 Florida Ave. Athens, GA 30605 | eCotton@LearningAlly.org www.learningally.org |
| At Learning Ally, a national non-profit since 1948, the mission is to promote personal achievement when access and reading are barriers to learning by advancing the use of accessible and effective educational solutions. | | | | |
| NFB-NEWSLINE | (404) 371-1000 (866) 504-7300 | (404) 371-1002 | 315 W. Ponce De Leon Ave. Suite 1020 Decatur, GA 30030 | www.nfb.org/audio-newspaper-service |
| NFB-NEWSLINE is a free audio newspaper service for those who cannot read regular newsprint. It offers well over 300 publications, including four Spanish-language newspapers and over 35 magazines. Every day, subscribers can choose that day's, the previous day's, or the previous Sunday's issue of any newspaper in the service. NFB-NEWSLINE is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. To register for this free service, call the National Federation of the Blind toll free at 1(866) 504-7300 or fill out an online application at www.nfb.org . | | | | |
| Very Special Arts of Georgia | (404) 221-1270 | (404) 221-1984 | 57 Forsyth Street NW Suite R-1 Atlanta, GA 30303 | info@VSAartsGA.org www.vsaartsga.org |
| Very Special Arts of Georgia (VSA) provides access to the arts for people with disabilities and those with low income. VSA is a statewide resource working with artists and organizations to fulfill the vision of an inclusive community that encourages everyone to enjoy and participate in the arts. | | | | |

Support Groups

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| Albany Advocacy Resource Center – Center for the Blind | (229) 888-6852 | (229) 439-2260 | 1500-B Gillionville Road Albany, GA 31707 | crobinson@albanygaarc.org www.albanyarc.org |
| The mission of the Albany Advocacy Resource Center is to obtain and maintain skills needed to live a productive life through training of independent living skills which may include some or all of the following: independent living, computer training, adjusting to blindness, orientation and mobility, peer support, advocacy, Braille training, and leisure activities. | | | | |
| Center for the Visually Impaired | (404) 875-9011 | (404) 607-0062 | 739 W. Peachtree Street NW Atlanta, GA 30308 | info@cviga.org www.cviga.org |
| For 50 years, the Center for the Visually Impaired (CVI) has empowered people with vision loss to live with independence and dignity. As Georgia's largest comprehensive, fully accredited organization providing rehabilitation services, we serve people of all ages who are blind or visually impaired. At CVI, there are a variety of support groups available to help you with the emotional, practical, and social aspects of vision loss. No matter what condition you are struggling with – diabetes, macular degeneration, blindness – there are others to help guide you on this journey. | | | | |
| Foundation Fighting Blindness – Atlanta Chapter | (410) 423-0600 (800) 683-5555 | (410) 423-0600 | 7168 Columbia Gateway Dr. Suite 100 Columbia, MD 21046 | info@FightBlindness.org www.blindness.org |
| The Foundation Fighting Blindness has a National Network of Volunteer Groups that raises funds, increases public awareness, and provides support to their communities. The Foundation Fighting Blindness Atlanta Chapter's Vision Resource Group (VRG), holds its meeting on the first Saturday of the month from 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM. Meetings are held in the downstairs classrooms of St. Joseph's Hospital on Peachtree Dunwoody Road, next door to the Medical Center MARTA Station. They often go out to lunch after the meeting. For questions or more information, contact Gail Handler at (770) 455-6734 or g_handle@bellsouth.net . | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| Savannah Center for Blind and Low Vision | (912) 236-4473 | (912) 234-9286 | 214 Drayton Street Savannah, GA 31401 | www.savannahcblv.org |
| While always respecting the dignity and rights of blind and visually impaired individuals, the mission of Savannah CBLV is the provision of quality services and activities designed to help each person served adjust to a severe vision loss and to function independently at home and in the community. To carry out the mission, CBLV offers programs and services designed to provide high quality training in compensatory skills essential for the dignified, independent quality of life the students deserve. Completing the mission requires that we also strive to instill self-confidence and esteem in our students since this is necessary to gain a sense of comfort with a vision loss or blindness. | | | | |
| Vision Rehabilitation Services of Georgia | (770) 432-7280 | (770) 432-5457 | 3830 South Cobb Drive Suite 125 Smyrna, GA 30080 | kgomillion@vrsga.org www.vrsga.org |
| Vision Rehabilitation Services of Georgia, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is dedicated to assisting individuals who are visually impaired, blind, and deaf/blind so they may function safely and independently in all of their environments. Support groups offer an opportunity to exchange information, lift spirits, and form lasting friendships. We offer support groups in Dalton, Jasper, Gainesville, Cobb County, and Peachtree City. For more information about the times and days these groups meet, please call 770-432-7280. | | | | |
| The VISTAS Center | (706) 583-8001 | (706) 583-8844 | 337 South Milledge Ave. Suite 200 Athens, GA 30605 | pchavis@charter.net www.vistascenter.org |
| VISTAS is one of many initiatives sponsored by the Institute for Community and Organizational Development, Inc., a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt educational institution based in Athens-Clarke County, Georgia. The project's mission is to help promote self-sufficiency for the visually impaired by using advanced technologies to provide them and their families with training, education, and advocacy services. | | | | |
| Visually Impaired Foundation of Georgia | (770) 390-0009 (877) 778-4342 | (770) 926-7883 | 6595 Roswell Road Suite 224 Atlanta, GA 30328 | vifga@magnifiers.com www.vifga.com |
| Visually Impaired Foundation of Georgia (VIFGA) is a non-profit organization founded in 1997. VIFGA's goal is to serve as a comprehensive guide for visually impaired and blind Georgians. There are support groups that meet all throughout the state of Georgia. | | | | |

| Organization | Phone Number | Fax Number | Address | Email/Website |
|--|--|-----------------------|---|---|
| Walton Options for Independent Living, Inc. | (706) 724-6262 (877) 821-8400 | (706) 724-6729 | 948 Walton Way Augusta, GA 30901 | www.waltonoptions.org |
| Walton Options for Independent Living, Inc.'s mission is to empower people of all ages, regardless of disability, by promoting personal choice, independence, community inclusion and competitive employment. Our peer supporters are people with disabilities who mentor other people with disabilities by demonstrating and encouraging independence. This is done through providing support as well as sharing their knowledge and experiences as people with disabilities. | | | | |



Georgia Vision Collaborative

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